(*b*) The alleged molestation of non-caste Hindus in Mullur by certain bad characters.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Mr. Dias, Inspector of Police, Trichur Cusba.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Hon'ble Member for Police have an eye on this village to prevent breach of peace in future?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Yes.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the people in that locality have put in a petition to the police authorities with regard to the difficulties they are experiencing at the hands of certain bad characters?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No.

Standing Finance Committee—Election of members to

Mr. President : I have to announce to the House that the election to the Standing Finance Committee will be held on the 29th July, and that nominations should be handed over to the Secretary before 12 noon on Saturday, the 27th July.

Voting of Demands for Grants—*(cont.)*

1. Land Revenue—Rs. 2,87,310

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Sir, I beg to move for an allotment of Rs, 2,87,310 under "Land Revenue".

Cut Motions Nos. 1 & 2

Appointment of a Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar

1. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,10,263 for Land Revenue Establishment by Re. 1.

(To discuss the immediate urgency of appointing a Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar).

[Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon]

2. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,10,263 for Land Revenue Establishment by Re. 1.

(To point out that there is no necessity for the appointment of a Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar and even if necessary,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the present is the most inopportune moment for making such an appointment).

[Mr. A. V. Moothedan]

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, may I know whether cut motions 1 and 2 cannot be taken up together, as mine is worded rather vaguely?

Mr. President: Yes.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, I am sorry that I am constrained to table this motion, in spite of the fairly efficient arguments advanced by the Secretary to Government, during the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee. He tried his best to convince me that there was a necessity for the post of the Personal Assistant, because of the increased volume of work which has been facing the Diwan Peishkar, in view of the number of departments that have been added on to his work. Though there is some truth in what he says, my submission is that in the matter of administration of the departments of a State so small as Cochin, it is time that this House forces the Government to see that the officers who are in charge of the departments are compelled to do the work themselves, instead of asking for personal assistants whenever they have got a little more work to be done. My submission is that this is not an isolated instance. This is only a development of the general policy of the Government by which personal assistants, whether one or many, are being given to Heads of Departments so that they might find more leisure. I fully concede that leisure is necessary for efficient work of the heads of departments. But there is a limit to the leisure that can be expected of anybody.

Now Sir, it will be found that the reorganisation of the Secretariat was necessitated by the vital necessity felt for an efficient Secretariat and so the head of the department had four personal assistants where originally there was only one. Subsequently, the Police Department which used to be administered by the Commissioner of Police came to have a Deputy Commissioner, and now we are having a Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar. My submission is that, in the interests of efficiency, you can add a number of posts and add to the recurring charges of the Government; but the duty of the House in my opinion is to see that such wasteful extravagance is not permitted and that, as far as possible, it should be made compulsory for the head of the department to see that departments which are entrusted to his care are administered by him without further help.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Coming to details of the work, as I understood it from the Secretary to Government during the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee, his case was that there were a number of petitions for quarrying pending, which, really speaking, he (the Diwan Peishkar) could not tackle. Further, certain estates were assumed by the Government and the Diwan Peishkar is put in sole charge of these estates. And finally, there is *Jamabandy* of the vast Paliam Estate. With these three tremendous additions to his work, it has become almost impossible for the Diwan Peishkar to discharge his duties efficiently. Over and above this, he has to submit a number of reports to the Government on various matters. My submission to this House is that the fact that the late incumbent to the Diwan Peishkarship was entrusted with the task of submitting so many reports upon various matters to the Government should not be advanced as an argument in favour of creating the post of the Assistant. Possible it may be, because of the fact that the Government realised the infallibility or the remarkable qualities of the previous incumbent that induced them to entrust him with all these works; but normally, I must say the Diwan Peishkar has got to attend only to some legitimate duties concerned with the collection of land revenue and all other matters pertaining to the collection of land revenue. Now, if he is to be entrusted with more work, naturally, he will want a personal assistant. I will be the last person to object to give him a Personal Assistant if that be the case. But my submission to the House is that it is absolutely unfair to saddle him with duties alien to the land revenue collection and then argue that because he has got other duties to attend to, he must be given a personal assistant. If that be the case, then there are other Heads of Departments as the Director of Public Instruction and the Chief Engineer, who have to get through various duties, who would require personal assistants, in order that they may have little more leisure and a little more enjoyment of life.

The point is, how far are we going to involve the Government in the name of efficiency. My submission is that this sort of adding on to the personnel of the Government should be stopped especially in view of the fact that our resources, which, according to the Diwan President himself, are very limited and might possibly be still more limited next year, because of the fall in the customs revenue as a result of the world war. That being so, my request is that the recurring charges of the government should be put a stop to as much as possible and such posts ought not to be sanctioned, unless the Secretary to Government, in his characteristic fashion is able to advance very convincing arguments against the motion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. V. Mootkedan *(Chalakkudi):* Mr. President Sir, I beg to move that *the allotment of Rs. 2,10,263 for Land Revenue Establishment be reduced by Re. 1.* The object of my motion is *to point out that there is no necessity for the appointment of a Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar and even if necessary, the present is the most inopportune moment for making such an appointment.*

Sir, My opinion is, in the past decade, establishment charges of our State were soaring up very rapidly and in every year, there is such an increase that the nation building departments, which are vital to the welfare of our masses, are being starved. That is one of the grounds on which I oppose this provision in the budget.

My friend, Mr. Bhaskara Menon, who very seldom agrees with me on any point, *(laughter)* agrees with me here. He cleverly alluded to the fact that Mr. Achyuta Menon who was the incumbent of the post of the Diwan Peishkar was asked, on account of his versatile genius, to do all sorts of things and to submit all sorts of reports. But normally, the Diwan Peishkar would not be asked to do all these things. For instance, the late incumbent presided over the Agriculturist Relief Bill Select Committee continuously for one week. It was due to his special knowledge that he was asked to do that work.

Another consideration that must have weighed with the Government in making this appointment is the age of Mr. Achyuta Menon. He is 53 years old. But the present incumbent is only 47. He is very young and therefore, he can do a little more work for the benefit of the people of the State. He is a native of the State and so he will be glad to work for the amelioration of the poor agriculturists of the State. He won't ask for a personal assistant.

Then, there is another ground on which I oppose this appointment. Till the 26th March 1936, the Diwan Peishkar was also the Commissioner of Income-tax. He had to look after this very important department. It was on 26th March 1936 that this department was taken away from him. So, he was released from that great responsibility. Therefore, his work also has been very much reduced. Now the "Ayurveda" also is separated. As regards "Fisheries", he is only a supervising authority, because he does not know anything about fishing.

Another point to be considered is, if the House is now going to grant a personal assistant to the Diwan Peishkar, next year, there will be another attempt, either by the Director of Public Instruction or the Chief Engineer, to get a personal assistant. The Director of Public Instruction is now the custodian of the happiness of 5,000

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

teachers. Sometimes, he may have to interfere even in their domestic quarrels. Such a huge task he has to perform.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I don't like to delegate such powers to another person.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Then, there is the Chief Engineer. His functions are multifarious, beginning from Ram Mohan Palace and ending with line boats. These officers also may request for personal assistants. I say, these assistants are unnecessary. Most of our officers are natives of this place and they should work hard.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* I think the Diwan himself has remarked that Mr. Achyuta Menon is a hobby in the Trichur Town Hall. *(Laughter).*

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Therefore, Sir, I do not think there is absolutely any necessity for this post. We are now proceeding towards responsible government. When the Council of Ministers comes—and I hope it is not at a distant date—all these officers will have to vacate their seats in this Council. The Ministers will do some of their works, and therefore, their work will be very much reduced. If you appoint personal assistants now, it will be very difficult to abolish these posts later on. Therefore also, we should be very cautious in allowing such additional appointments. I would therefore request this House to view the matter from all these aspects and then come to a fair decision.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* On a point of information, Sir. May I know, whether this is a permanent or a temporary post?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* It is a permanent one.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Sir, The news that the Diwan Peishkar should hereafter be assisted by a personal assistant was published in the dailies of Cochin State some three to four months back. The news came as a surprise to me, because, the Diwan President, perhaps in a different capacity, expressed a very humourous opinion about the then Diwan Peishkar that he was doing the Diwan Peishkar's work more as a hobby, and because he has no sufficient work to do, the duty of celebrating the birthday of His Highness was entrusted to him. This is a confession that, at that period at any rate, there was no sufficient work for the Diwan Peishkar to engage him throughout the day. Leaving a fair margin to the humour contained in the statement, even then, we have to take it that the Diwan Peishkar was not an over-worked officer.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Now, Sir, the difficulties of balancing the budget will certainly, in the near future, face us. We, youngsters, will surely have to face it. Some of you will be leaving office, many will not be living at all, while in the usual course of events, we may be living for some years more *(Laughter)*. In the year 1105 it was, I remember, that a Special Finance Committee was appointed, and the Committee, instead of cutting down expenditure, found out a very good method of increasing the salary of officers and gave them a fairly graded pay. Since then, the officers have been drawing higher pay every year and, I think, they have not most of them reached their maximum salaries. We do not know what exactly the amount will be when all the officers will be drawing the maximum salaries according to the present grades of pay.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Permit me to correct you, Sir, the Special Finance Committee was appointed to give increased emoluments to the officers of the Government.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur)*: Whatever be the intention with which that committee was appointed, the result is that our officials are getting a fairly graded pay, and when we compare the pay of these officers before the appointment of the Special Finance Committee, the pay now they are drawing is fairly high. Even afterwards offices have been created in many departments and Head clerks, Managers and such other officers who are moving on close quarters with the Heads of Departments were trying to get their pay revised, and the result is, persons who were in the grade of Rs. 80—100, got their pay revised to Rs. 100—150 and those on Rs. 60—80, got their pay revised to Rs. 80—100 and so on. So, what we find now is that the cost of administration is increasing by leaps and bounds. It has been stated before this House by the Finance Member that for some 2 or 3 years the revenues of Cochin State have become inelastic, that we have reached the maximum of our revenues and that it is very difficult to increase the revenues of this State, except by resorting to new methods of taxation, which method is not at present to be resorted to. My submission is that this is not the opportune moment for increasing the cost of administration. As we have been getting on fairly well with the then incumbent, the present incumbent who was a District Judge and who was doing very yoemen work, voluminous and good work, cannot be expected to be a lazy man and that he is not capable of discharging his duties which have been now quite deservedly allotted to him. A District Judge, when he leaves that post and assumes an executive office, finds more leisure than when he was a District Judge. That has

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

been the experience of many officers. Unlike in the case of Heads of Departments a District Judge or an additional District Judge has to do his duties personally. There will be nobody to put up notes for him or to underline certain sentences. The District Judge has to do everything to his own satisfaction directly and personally. He has been used to such sort of work and he will not find it difficult to get on with the present work which has now been allotted to him and which he richly deserves. My humble submission, therefore, is that this is not an opportune moment and we can get on without a Personal Assistant. There may be long delay regarding certain papers now. The delay is not caused in the Diwan Peishkar's Office. The delay starts from the Village Offices, and the delay is continuous. It is not in the Office of the Diwan Peishkar or due to his want of time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Let us know the view of the Government.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* I am replying to this debate, because I was responsible for the report for this appointment, which was accepted by the Government. After hearing the arguments advanced so far—I do not know what is in store hereafter—I have come to the conclusion that it is more for extraneous purposes than for merely discussion of the question of a Personal Assistant for the Diwan Peishkar that this was tabled; because, I am very sorry to observe that observations both in the nature of flattery and observations of a sarcastic nature are indulged in, in discussing such a simple motion. As a lawyer of more than twenty years' experience, I am unmoved by sarcasm and unaffected by flatteries *(laughter).* I attach equal importance to them both.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli) :* Order, Order.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government) :* Order, Order. Yes. That is the order of the day. There was even an observation that the volume of work which I had to do in my term of office was due to my infallibility and versatality. Neither the Government nor the humble speaker are under any such delusions. I know and the Government know the nature of the work. There were no illusions anywhere that because of my infallibility or versatality I was able to manage the duties. It was not so. But, on the other hand, I have been frequently asked to oppose a motion brought forward by a member asking for it. There were hon'ble members in the House—persons who knew the situation very well, who wanted to give a Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar. Resolutions were tabled here to give me a Personal Assistant.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* So, you got an inspiration!

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* We frequently draw our inspiration and wisdom from the other side.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* One stray member might have sent a resolution. Was it passed?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* It was not passed. We do not differentiate between a stray member or all members collectively when speaking of members of the House. If one member of the House is sensible, then all are sensible. *(Laughter).* We cannot say that *A* alone is sensible, or *B* alone is sensible in dealing with this hon'ble House.

What I said was, just at a time when I felt the necessity for it and when I did not press for it, one hon'ble member here suggested that because of his volume of work, the Diwan Peishkar should be given a Personal Assistant. But, I was asked then to oppose the resolution, by Government. So, I had to oppose the resolution if it came up though in my innermost mind I was convinced that there was something in the resolution. It was after six years, in January 1940, that I made bold to place the matter before the Government at last; when it really became a question of physical inability, I thought I should place the case before the Government. It was not a question of attaching other duties not belonging to his department to the Diwan Peishkar's post, but it was a question of the just expansion of his department. As to being accustomed to hard-work, I might point out that I also came through the same path of the District Judgeship, so that the possession of the District Judge's experience is not the question here at all. The simple question is, whether the duties now appurtenant to the Diwan Peishkar's office are so heavy that a Personal Assistant should be given to him. That is the point.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is there any increase?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* After hearing the nature of the work, if the House thinks there is no case made out for this post, then, of course, they can come to a considered opinion in the matter. The present incumbent also will bear witness to the volume of the work which I am going to detail here, because he is also doing the same work now. The question is, what are the duties now enjoined upon the Diwan Peishkar and whether they have increased very much in recent years.

In the year 1108, the total number of files in the Diwan Peishkar's Office was only 13,505. In 1114, it rose to 17,596. And

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

most of these files come to the Diwan Peishkar also for orders. It may be that he will not have to do much mental exertion, but, in all these papers, he himself has to sign, and signing itself is a difficult task. Do not think it is a simple matter if a man is asked to sign a profusion of routine papers in the midst of various important works. Another point is that all these papers have to be disposed of by the Diwan Peishkar himself, because, under the statutes, all these powers have to be exercised by him. But now, it is proposed to delegate some of these powers to the Personal Assistant.

Then, there are the sale notifications. They are not only from the Land Revenue Department alone, but also from the Excise Department, the Co-operative Department, the Public Works Department and the Agricultural Loans Department. All these have to be sanctioned by the Diwan Peishkar. These files amount to 11,500 a year. Then there are the anti-rabic treatment papers. There are audit objections also. All these things go to swell up his routine work. I am sure, the House knows that no Diwan Peishkar will be able to do all these works satisfactorily except by starting his duties at 5 or 6 in the morning and signing till 11 o'clock. The present incumbent will bear witness to this. He is here. He will corroborate my statement.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* He is a new man.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. He is also doing the same work. This mechanical process of signing alone will take some 4 to 5 hours a day. Then there are the statutory duties in connection with inspection of lands ordered by the Government from time to time. Even under the Statutes he is bound to inspect them.

Again, there is the Land Revenue *Jamabandi.* No doubt, that existed during the time of other Diwan Peishkars also. The question is whether that kind of work can stand the strain of further additions. That work takes him from Medam to Karkadagam. Any member who has known the nature of the *Jamabandi* work will admit that it is not an easy work. For that, you have to scrutinise the accounts of all the villages, 275 in number, and find out whether there is anything wrong in respect of things such as quarrying, in respect of encroachments, whether the Revenue Inspectors are doing their duties properly and whether the village officers are doing their duties properly. He has often to see whether coercive processes are resorted to more than what are necessary. The number of sales pending to be confirmed, when I assumed charge as the Diwan Peishkar in 1108, was 494, and by a careful and systematic work, it has come to a remarkably low figure, namely

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

one or two in 1114. I beg to draw your pointed attention to all these facts before you come to any decision in the matter. This work will take you from Medam to Karkadagam. Then the budget session will be approaching.

Then there is the V. T. K. Estate *Jamabandi* and the Paliam *Jamabandi*. There is also the Chazhur Kovilagam *Jamabandi*. These have to be carried out in the month of Chingam. This involves a minute examination of the revenue accounts of all these 3 big estates apart from the Government accounts. Annual inspection of Treasuries have to be conducted. The Land Record Office has to be inspected. The inspection of banderols to the matches and the verification of the ornaments in the Cochin-Kanayannur Treasury are other duties allotted to him. In the case of latter he has to minutely examine every item of the valuables. If there are 10,000 rubies he has to count 10,000, and if any one is missing, the consequences are serious.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* On a point of information, may I know, whether for the supervision or the examination of the records of the Paliam and V. T. K. Estates, the Diwan Peishkar gets any allowance?

Mr. President: He is paid no allowance for the work beyond his pay?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether Government get any amount in this behalf from the Estates?

Mr. President: Government get a contribution from the Estates, but the Diwan Peishkar is not given any additional remuneration.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Verification of the State bonds, half-yearly inspection of Taluk offices, inspection of the Fishery Superintendent's Office, inspection of rain-gauges, verification of cash in the treasury, these are some other duties which he has to attend to. Then there is the stamp verification, every alternate month in the case of the single-lock. Over and above these, there is the mustering of pensioners. He has to personally sit and verify every pensioner and must enter the fact in the Pension book. There is also the conduct of the Legislative Council and Municipal elections. Then the Town Council Elections.

Let me then pass on to the land acquisition cases. In 1108, there were only 186 land acquisition cases and in 1114 they have swollen up to 239. That is, it comes approximately to 1 award for each

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

day of the year. Then look at his tour works. Generally, on an average, he has to spend 260 days on tour out of 365 days a year of which 182 days he has necessarily to spend in Ernakulam. All the papers will come to him here. Then he has to report on matters not connected with any other department. On any paper which does not properly come under a particular department the Diwan Peishkar is asked to report and naturally because, he is the Diwan Peishkar. It was, in these circumstances, that I ventured with great diffidence to place before the Government that a personal Assistant may be given to the Diwan Peishkar to relieve him a portion of his work. I considered the question also whether the Manager could be entrusted with some of the work. But it will not be fair to ask the Manager to sit in judgment upon the decision of Tahsildars. For instance, if the Tahsildar passes an order regarding encroachment, it will be anamalous in asking the Manager to sit in judgment over him. Therefore, somebody who is either an experienced Tahsildar himself or a little above that should be placed in the capacity of the Personal Assistant. He has to look into encroachment cases, quarrying matters, sanctioning sales. Then there will some 20,000 to 30,000 joint registry applications by the landlords and tenants. These have to be carefully looked into. There will be a number of complaints there.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Then there will be refund of the value of stamp papers.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. It is a very difficult matter. It will take a lot of time. Vakils come and argue before us. It is a legal matter. I am obliged to my honourable friend for the interruption. With regard to adjudication of stamps,we have to refer to authorities and pronounce judgments and sometimes even to refer to the High Court, if there are cases fit for adjudication. If the House is not still convinced, I have no other argument. But I submit that as persons who are accustomed to weighing matters in their proper perspective you must have come down from your first honest but mistaken view of the work of the Diwan Peishkar.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvs-Trichur):* May I know whether the appointment has already been made?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether large arrears of work have been left to the present Diwan Peishkar on account of the absence of a Personal Assistant? How much

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

arrears of work are left by the previous incumbent because of the physical impossibility of tackling the work?

Mr. President: That is not a fair question to be asked. He might have turned out a great amount of work which it is not possible for an ordinary officer to do.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* I do not refer to other big works, works of magnitude which I was called upon to do. There was the railway land acquisition. I had to sit up from 6 in the morning till 10 in the night to dispose of the 5 lakhs of rupees after hearing objections and after getting proper vouchers and without at the same time putting yourself in the dangerous situation. This is no easy task. Then there are very many matters to be done by the Diwan Peishkar with the expansion of governmental activities.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will all these accounts of land acquisitions and other things continue in its present volume?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* In 1108 it was 186, in 1114, it was 239. You will see that the figure is progressively increasing during all these years.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Does the Diwan Peishkar himself go to inspect places which are going to be acquired?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* It was working rule that if the amount exceeds a certain figure, say 1,000 or 1,500 rupees, in all such cases I made a personal inspection as far as possible.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know what is the extent of additional work given to the Diwan Peishkar?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* All these things have been coming to me in the course of these 6 years—Paliam *Jamabundi,* Chazhur *Jamabundi,* inspection of matches and banderols, State Bonds, Securities, conduct of Municipal elections, Fisheries and the generally increased work connected with the Legislative Council. All these are new additions. I did not refer to the Museum, because much time was not taken up by that.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Were there not complaints from pattadars with regard to petitions for transfer of registry that they should be disposed of more expeditiously? I am suggesting that probably on account of the large work of the Diwan Peishkar he could not dispose of them as quickly as the parties expect him to do.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. എൻ. ദാമോദരൻ നമ്പ്യാർ: സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുവാൻ എനിക്കു യാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ല. കുറച്ചുമുമ്പ് ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതുപോലെ ടിവാൻപേഷ്കാർ അവർകൾക്ക് ഒരു പേഴ്സനൽ അസിസ്റ്റൻറിനെ കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്, അതായത് ലാൻറ് അക്വിസിഷൻ ജോലിനോക്കുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേകമായിട്ട് ഒരു പേഴ്സനൽ അസിസ്റ്റൻറിനെകൊടുക്കേണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ ഇതിനുമുമ്പ് ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ ഒരു പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആ പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു് എന്നെ പ്രേരിപ്പിച്ചതു വേറെ ഒന്നുമല്ല. അനവധി ലാൻറ് അക്വിസിഷൻ കേസുകളിൽ കക്ഷികൾക്കു തങ്ങളുടെ ഭൂമി സർക്കാരിൽനിന്നു് ഏറ്റെടുത്തു്, സർക്കാർ കൈവശത്തിലാക്കിയതിനുശേഷം വളരെ താമസിച്ചിട്ടും പണംകിട്ടാതെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു നേരിട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതായി എനിക്കു അറിവായി. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിച്ചപ്പോൾ വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ഈ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരിൽ ഏറ്റവും കൂടുതലായ ജോലി ടിവാൻപേഷ്കാർ അവർകൾക്കാണെന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ഒരുപക്ഷെ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു്, ഈ ലാൻറ് അക്വിസിഷൻ കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി വേണ്ടത്ര സമയം വ്യയംചെയ്തു് അതിനെ കാര്യക്ഷമമായി നോക്കി ആളുകൾക്കു പണം വേഗത്തിൽ കൊടുക്കത്തക്കവിധത്തിലുള്ള പ്രവൃത്തികൾ നടത്തുന്നതിനു മറ്റുള്ള ജോലികൾനിമിത്തം സമയം ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടായിരിക്കും ഈ ആക്ഷേപത്തിനു കാരണം എന്നു ഞാൻ കരുതി, ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഭൂമിവില കുറെക്കൂടി വേഗത്തിൽ കിട്ടുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി, പേഴ്സനൽ അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് എന്ന ഒരുദ്യോഗത്തിനു കുറെ ധനവ്യയം വന്നാലും നിർമ്മിക്കുന്നതു് ന്യായമാകുമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചിട്ടാണു റസലൂഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽഹാജി ഈസാസേട്ട്: ആ റസലൂഷൻ പാസാക്കുകയുണ്ടായോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. എൻ. ദാമോദരൻനമ്പ്യാർ: റസലൂഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ സൌകര്യം കിട്ടിയില്ല.

മുമ്പു ടിവാൻപേഷ്കാർ ആയിരുന്ന ദേഹവും ഇപ്പോൾ ചീഫ്സിക്രട്ടറി ആയിരിക്കുന്ന ആളുമായ മിസ്റ്റർ അച്യുതമേനോൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ജോലികളെപ്പറ്റി വിശദമായി പറഞ്ഞതു കേട്ടപ്പോൾ എനിക്കു് ആ ഒരുദ്യോഗം അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നു തീർച്ചയായി. ലാൻറ് അക്വിസിഷൻ ജോലി എത്രത്തോളം കൂടിയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതറിയുന്നതിനു പല ചോദ്യങ്ങളും ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിലേക്കയക്കുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്". ആയവക ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇതേവരെയും മറുപടി കിട്ടീട്ടില്ല. മറുപടി തരാത്ത കാരണം മറുപടി തരിക്കുണ്ടാക്കിത്തരുന്നതിനുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു വളരെയാണെന്നും അത്രത്തോളം ഇണം അതിനുണ്ടാകയില്ലെന്നുമാണു ഗവൺമെൻറ് പിന്നീടു പറഞ്ഞതു്. ആ ചോദ്യത്തിൻറെ മറുപടി അപ്പോൾ തന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവൺമെൻറിൽനിന്നുതന്നെ ഈ കട്ടുമോഷ്ടനു പറഞ്ഞ മറുപടിയായി ഞാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ട വിവരങ്ങൾ ഈ സഭയിൽ ബോധിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു സന്തോഷമുണ്ടു്. എനിക്കു നേരിട്ടറിയാവുന്ന ഒരു കാര്യം പറയാം. ഫാഫാഫ-ൽ ലാൻറ് അക്വിസിഷൻകഴിഞ്ഞു് അവാർഡു് പാസ്സാക്കികഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള ഒരുകാര്യത്തിൽ ഫാഫാഫ-ൽ മാത്രമേ ആ പണം കോടതിക്കയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ഇനിയും പണം വാങ്ങിക്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഇത്തരത്തിലുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾക്കു പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം നേടുന്നതിനാണു ഞാൻ റസലൂഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചതു്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ത്തെ പേഴ്സനൽ അസിസ്റ്റന്റിന്റെ നിയമനം എന്റെ റസല്യൂഷന്റെ നിർദ്ദേശമനുസരിച്ചല്ല. ഞാൻ റസല്യൂഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചപ്പോൾ എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം തഹസിൽദാരുടെ ഗ്രേഡിൽ വലിയ ശമ്പളത്തിലുള്ള ഒരു പേഴ്സനൽ അസിസ്റ്റന്റിനെ നിയമിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതല്ലായിരുന്നു. എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം ഏതാണ്ട് ഒരു മജിസ്ട്രേട്ടിന്റെ ഗ്രേഡിൽകുടത്തെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ, നിയമപരിജ്ഞാനവും, സയ്പ്പരിജ്ഞാനവും ഉള്ള ഒരാളെ വെച്ചാൽ മതിയെന്നുള്ളതായിരുന്നു. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു ലാൻഡ് അക്വിസിഷൻ പണിമാത്രം കൊടുത്താൽ മതിയെന്നുമായിരുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിയമനം അങ്ങിനെയല്ല. ഇത്രത്തോളം ശമ്പളംകൊടുത്തു തഹസിൽദാരുടെ ഗ്രേഡിലുള്ള ഒരുദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ വെക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല എന്നാണ് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു്. എന്നതന്നെയല്ല ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെ നിയമിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് ലാൻഡ് അക്വിസിഷനുവേണ്ടിമാത്രമല്ല, മറ്റു പല ജോലികൾക്കും കൂടിയാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗവൺമെന്റു് ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നുകൂടി ആലോചിച്ചു വേണ്ടതുചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Mr. President Sir, I oppose this cut motion. In doing so, I wish to make it clear that we are making an exception to the principle. In view of the enlightenment we have received from the Treasury Bench of the heavy work that has been now given to the Diwan Peishkar, one certainly does not doubt the honesty of purpose that has induced the previous Diwan Peishkar, whose capacity for work is so well known, in making a recommendation for this purpose. It is certainly the duty of those who sit on this side of the House also to appreciate a sense of responsibility on the Treasury Bench. Therefore, Sir, while opposing this cut motion, realising the additional extent of work that has been given to the Diwan Peishkar, I wish to invite the attention of the Government to the fact that this policy should be discouraged as a matter of policy, and only in exceptional cases, where a very strong case has been made out, should such appointments be made.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Is there a single case in which Government have not tried to justify their position?

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* I am not to vindicate the Government.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Sir, We feel difficulty in coming to a conclusion ourselves in this matter. Our position is this. As far as we are concerned, the new Diwan Peishkar would be given a Personal Assistant for some time, and it is for him to decide later on, whether he should be retained and submit reports to the Government whether it is necessary to continue him. That is our view in the matter.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, the Hon'ble Secretary to Government had been trying to make a very convincing

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case and has made a series of pointed observations as regards the duties of the Diwan Peishkar. My contention, however, is that he has not been able to establish conclusively that the duties of the Diwan Peishkar have so much increased that it has become absolutely impossible for a person to get through the work without his health breaking down. Now let me refer to some of the figures which he placed before the Council. He has referred to the land acquisition figures, 186 in 1108 and 239 in 1114. But he did not say that those were exceptional days. There was a land acquisition for improvements to the Ram Mohan Palace. Then, with regard to Railway land acquisition, a Special Officer was appointed. So, no case has been made out that the land acquisition work has generally considerably increased more than what it was during the olden days. My friend, the Hon'ble Member for Trippunittura, has been attacking the cut motion on the ground that the land acquisition decisions of the Diwan Peishkar are considerably delayed.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Payment of money even after the award is delayed. That was what he said.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Thank you. Any how, that seems to be the only ground for his opposition. If that is so, the appointment of a Personal Assistant who has not got this power, whose powers are mainly for dealing with encroachment cases and doing everything only up to the award, will not solve the problem. Therefore, my submission to the House is, such a thing is an absolute luxury which this Council ought not to allow.

My friend, the Hon'ble Member for Adur, had been expatiating upon exceptional cases. In all cases where a new post is created, whether it be that of the Publicity Officer or the Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar, exceptional cases have always been made out by the Government, and in any case Government have never appointed a person or created a post unless there is necessity for it. If my honourable friend's suggestion is accepted all that we can suggest to the Government is this: "In our opinion these things are not necessary. But if you decide that they are necessary, you can have them." That is no argument at all. The only argument which can weigh with this House is, whether the Diwan Peishkar has got more work. My submission is, absolutely no case has been made out by the Secretary to Government. We have been really frightened with the story of the *Jamabandi* work and the going through all the village accounts. If the Diwan Peishkar does the work of a Comptroller's Office, if that is the true nature of the work done by the Diwan Peishkar, my submission is that there ought to be at least 100 Personal Assistants. There are nearly 300 villages in Cochin State, and if the accounts relating

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to all these villages are personally scrutinised by the Diwan Peishkar, if the work of the Inspectors is again supervised, if the work of every Tahsildar is being gone into in detail, then my submission is, there ought to be 278 Personal Assistants, one for each village, The work of a supervising officer is that of a supervising authority. That is all. They do not go into details. By mere accumulation of details, by the narration of details, by the enumeration of details, the work of the Diwan Peishkar cannot be made more heavy. I am prepared to concede that the Diwan Peishkar has got fairly tight work. But it is not work which the Diwan Peishkar cannot do with the elaborte staff at his disposal and which he should do with the fat pay which he is drawing. I therefore request that this cut motion may be accepted by this House.

Motion put and lost

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* A poll Sir.

POLL

Ayes

1. Mr. A. V. Moothedan
2. ,, V. K. Krishnankutty
3. ,, V. K. Bhaskara Menon

Noes

1. Mr. M. K. Devassy
2. ,, V. N. Damodaran Nambiar
3. ,, K. R. Viswambharan
4. ,, K. S. Panikkar
5. ,, K. M. Ibrahim
6. ,, T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar
7. ,, A. Eachara Menon
8. ,, N. Govinda Pai
9. ,, M. Nanu Menon
10. ,, S. S. Koder
11. ,, C. J. Luiz
12. ,, N. V. Subbarayan Chettiar
13. ,, V. K. Kutty
14. ,, P. K. Krishnan
15. Mr. C. K. S. Moni
16. Dr. A. R. Menon
17. Mr. K. Achyuta Menon
18. ,, A. Madhava Prabhu
19. ,, P. J. George
20. Dr. T. Verghese
21. Mr. M. Sivarama Menon
22. ,, T. Narayana Menon
23. ,, K. V. Menon
24. Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon
25. Rao Sahib I. N. Menon
26. Mr. M. Raman Menon
27. Rama Varmha Tampuran
28. Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon

3 for and 28 against

Cut Motion No. 3

Appointing Village Officials from the unrepresented Communities

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,10,263 for Land Revenue Establishment by Re. 1

(To impress upon the Government the necessity of appointing a larger number of Peons, Masapadies, Parvathiams, Village Menons, from the unrepresented and inadequately represented communities

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